

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6451

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: AFP CLAIMS FRENCH BROUGHT ABOUT
RESUMPTION INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

REF: PARIS 31356

1. IN EVIDENT RIPOSTE TO PRESS REPORTS THAT HELMUT SCHMIDT HAD OFFERED FRG'S "GOOD OFFICES" TO MEDIATE GREEK-TURKISH DIFFERENCES DURING ATHENS PRESS CONFERENCE, AGENCE FRANCE PRESS HAS JUST PUBLISHED UN-ATTRIBUTTED REPORT DETAILING CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRENCH DIPLOMACY TO RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS IN NEW YORK.

2. AFP POINTS OUT THAT IT WAS SAUVAGNARGUES WHO SUGGESTED THE RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS TO THE GREEKS, TURKS
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AND CYPRIOTS ON THE MARGINS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

MEETING LAST NOVEMBER 27; AND THAT IT WAS FRANCE'S SUGGESTION AT THAT TIME, THAT THE PARTIES AGREE TO DISCUSS THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS IN A CERTAIN ORDER, WHICH BROKE THE IMPASSE OVER THE AGENDA. THE PROPOSAL WAS THAT TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS WOULD BE DISCUSSED FIRST; THEN INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS ON A BIZONAL BASIS; AND LASTLY THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TWO ZONAL GOVERNMENTS.

3. AFP POINTEDLY CONTINUES THAT THIS "FRENCH PLAN" WAS THEN THE "OBJECT OF EXCHANGES" WITH THE FRG; THAT IT WAS "WELL THOUGHT OF" IN ANKARA, ADOPTED BY THE NINE AND ULTIMATELY BECAME THE BASIS FOR THE GREEK-TURKISH ACCORD REACHED ON THE MARGINS OF THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON DECEMBER 12. AFP CONCLUDES BY ONCE MORE REITERATING THAT "THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL THEREFORE REOPEN IN NEW YORK IN JANUARY ON THE BASIS OF THE FRENCH PLAN".

4. COMMENT: AFP'S ARTICLE HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF BEING INSPIRED BY FRENCH DIPLOMATIC PIQUE THAT SAUVAGNARGUES', AND THE QUAI'S CONTRIBUTIONS ON THIS QUESTION (WHICH, WHILE PROBABLY ONLY ONE OF FACTORS INVOLVED WERE NEVERTHELESS OF SOME IMPORTANCE) (REFTEL), MIGHT BE OVERLOOKED IN WAKE SCHMIDT'S ATHENS PUBLICITY. WE NOTE PARENTHETICALLY THAT US ALSO GETS NO SHARE IN CREDITS.
GAMMON

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